



NEWS RELEASE

US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR ■ BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
NEW MEXICO STATE OFFICE ■ 1474 RODEO RD ■ SANTA FE NM 87505

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Step into Another Time During Old Fort Craig Days

Socorro, New Mexico – For several days in late November, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the Friends of Fort Craig, and other partners welcome you to visit another time at Fort Craig—a territorial fort 32 miles south of Socorro. The diversity of New Mexico and living history will be celebrated as the fort is brought alive from November 18th through 20th.

For Immediate Release
November 9, 2005

For Additional Information
Brenda Wilkinson, 505.835.0412

The 3-day living history event is free to the public and will consist of period happenings. The event begins on Friday, November 18, at 1:00pm and ends on Sunday, November 20, at 2:00pm. This wonderful opportunity will give everyone a chance to learn from the past.

“A lot of people will remember fondly the huge 150th anniversary commemoration of the Fort Craig last year,” said Brenda Wilkinson, BLM Archeologist in Socorro. “Although this event is not as elaborate, we hope to give many an opportunity to experience the flavor of that time,” said Wilkinson.

Throughout the weekend, children may learn about and play with toys and games from the 1800s. Everyone will be able to try their skill at a 1800s-era game called “The Cabin Sweep.” The Cabin Sweep, a timed competition of chores typically done during the 1800s, such as cooking, gathering wood, and sweeping the cabin is fun and amusing for all.

Commissioned in 1854, Fort Craig was one of the largest frontier forts in the West. Located on the Camino Real, the fort was established to protect travelers and settlers, primarily from Navajo and Apache raiding. Military excursions from the Fort pursued such notable Apache leaders as Geronimo, Victorio and Nana.

For more information and directions to the site, please call the BLM Socorro Field Office at 505.835.0412 or check us out online at www.nm.blm.gov.

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Editor’s Note: The following schedule is tentative and subject to change.



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Schedule of Events for Old Fort Craig Days Living History Event

Throughout the weekend:

-Children may learn about and play with toys and games from the 1800s.

-Everyone may enjoy wagon rides or try their skill at a fun and amusing game called "The Cabin Sweep,"— a timed competition of chores typically done during the 1800s, such as cooking, gathering wood, and sweeping the cabin.

Friday, 11/18/05, Living History

- 1:00 PM Reenactor units raise flag for Posting of Colors ceremony
- Afternoon Infantry, artillery, and cavalry drill during the afternoon
 Ladies socialize with tea and complete chores of the day
- 4:30 PM Retire the Colors (flag lowering ceremony)
 Living history event closes for the day

Saturday, 11/19/05 Living History

- 9:00 AM Living history camp opens, flag raising ceremony
- 10:00 AM Officer's call
- 10:30 AM Infantry, artillery and cavalry drill
- 12:00 PM Lunch
- Afternoon Skirmish of two opposing units
 Ladies gather for tea and socializing
- 4:30 PM Retire the Colors (flag lowering ceremony)
 Living history event closes for the day

Sunday, 11/20/05 – Living History

- 9:00 AM Living history camp opens, flag raising ceremony
- 10:00 AM Officer's call
- 11:00 AM Military and civilians perform typical duties portraying life at a western fort
- 2:00 PM Retire the Colors (flag lowering ceremony)
 Living history camp closes



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